[*Translation*]

Funds for Development of New National Highways

4796. SHRI SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state the funds allocated for development of new National Highways during 1991-92 alongwith the target fixed therefor, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Outlay for incurring expenditure on new National Highways is earmarked in Five Year Plans and not separately in Annual Plans. Declaration of new National Highways is done keeping in view certain criteria laid down for the purpose, availability of funds etc., and not with respect of any State-wise targets. Due to lack of budgetary support, no new National Highways have been added to the system during 1991-92 so far.

[*English*]

Release Price of Coffee

4797. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have fixed the minimum released price of Arabica Coffee and Robesta Coffee for the year 1992; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). Government have fixed the minimum release price for coffee for the season 1991-92 as follows:

Arabica	-	Rs. 23.93 per kg.
Robusta	-	Rs. 19.21 per kg.

Closure of Purchase Centre by JCI

4798. DR. SUDHIR RAY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down a large number of purchase centres of Jute Corporation of India from the 1992-93 season onwards;

(b) if so, the extent of such reduction and the reasons therefor and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of Jute growers and the employees of such centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) to (c). Government have not taken any decision to close down the purchase Centres of Jute Corporation of India Ltd. (JCI). The interest of Jute growers will continue to be safeguarded by JCI through procurement of raw jute at minimum support prices.

Lord Krishna Textile Mill, Saharanpur

4799. DR. RAM CHANDRA DOME: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lord Krishna Textiles Mill at Saharanpur is under lock-out since Sept. 3, 1991;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to re-open the mill and safeguard the interests of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.